

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A laser power control device for use in an optical recording and/or reproducing apparatus that records data on and/or reproduces data from an optical recording medium by driving a laser diode with a laser diode driver. The device includes: a peak power monitor which monitors a peak power by a sample-and-hold operation, the peak power being output by the laser diode when pits are formed in the optical recording medium; an elimination power monitor which monitors an elimination power by the sample-and-hold operation, the elimination power being output by the laser diode when a space between pits of the optical recording medium is formed; a peak power setter which sets a peak power in the laser diode driver based on a monitoring result of the peak power monitor; an elimination power setter which sets an elimination power in the laser diode driver based on a monitoring result of the elimination power monitor; and a bias power setter which sets a bias power in the laser diode driver based on the monitoring results of the peak power monitor and the elimination power monitor.